

## ABSTRACT

## DATA COMMUNICATIONS

5           A method of communicating data from a data source (10) on one bus  
system (1) to a data sink (30) on another bus system (3) whose cycle rate is  
similar to but not synchronised with that of the first bus system comprises the  
steps of determining the tolerances with respect to frequency between the first  
and second bus cycle periods, assembling the data for transmission into  
10   packets, allocating a variable size, dependent on the tolerances, data payload  
to the packets, and including within the packets a header indicating the size of  
the payload. The receiving bus (3) receives these packets and extracts the  
data payload from the packets using the packet header indication of the size of  
the data payload.

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[Figure 1]

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